

Screening Doctors educated in foreign countries

272. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to conduct a screen test in India for the foreign educated doctors, in order to get practitioner's licence here;

(b) if so, whether this screen test would be applicable to all the doctors educated in foreign universities, both recognized and unrecognized by the Medical Council of India; and

(c) if so, the details of the said screen test?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government have decided to introduce a Bill in the Parliament to amend the Indian Medical Council Act 1956 to provide for screening test for Indian nationals holding foreign medical qualifications for their registration with the Medical Council of India/ State Medical Councils to practice medicine in India.

Denial of essential medicines for Children

273. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item published in the Hindustan Times dated 21st January, 2001 captioned, "Children denied essential medicines: CAG Report";

(b) whether the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has not supplied enough Vitamin 'A' solution and Iron and Folic acid tablets that were to be administered to infants/children every six months under the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme, as per Report of CAG; and

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(c) if so, what are the details thereof and the reasons for non-supply of medicines to States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Vitamin A solution and Iron and Folic Acid (IFA) tablets are supplied to States/U.Ts. regularly as part of Drug Kit 'A' to Sub-centers. These items are not supplied to the Anganwadis under the Integrated Child Development Services Scheme by the Department of Family Welfare. However, States/U.Ts. have been requested to involve the ICDS Workers in the distribution of these items. The number of Drug kits. 'A' supplied to States/U.Ts. during 1995-96 was 215264, 264570 in 1996-97, 267000 in 1997-98 and 303603 in 1998-99.

Notifications regarding sale of iodised salt

274. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 701, given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th July, 2000 and state:

(a) whether, after issuing the notification dated 10th May, 2000 inviting public comments to withdraw the restriction regarding sale of iodised salt only for direct human consumption as per amendment made in PFA Rules w.e.f. 27th May, 1998, Government had issued any new notification; and

(b) if so, what is the content of that notification?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This Ministry have issued a final notification *vide* GSR No. 716(E) dated 13-9-2000 withdrawing, with effect from 30-9-2000, the restrictions which were imposed on sale on common salt for direct human consumption *vide* GSR. No. 670(E) dated 27-11-1997.